

FACT SHEET



Herculaneum Lead Smelter Site Herculaneum, Missouri

January 2002

Protecting the children in Herculaneum, Missouri is a top priority for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

EPA is continuing to take actions to address the Herculaneum Lead Smelter Site. EPA's goals are to reduce the amount of lead Doe Run emits through its smelter and to clean up the lead in homes and yards in the community. This lead contamination exists because of previous lead emissions from the smelter.

We are working with Doe Run to make sure they meet the national air standard. This standard is intended to protect public health. Under this standard, the facility will have to operate at levels which do not cause significant recontamination in the community.

Site Update

January 2002

Congressman Richard Gephardt and Missouri Governor Bob Holden sent letters to EPA. The letters request the Agency to take necessary actions to address health threats and hazards in the Herculaneum community, including adding Herculaneum to the National Priorities List. The National Priorities List, or NPL, is a list of the worst Superfund sites.

PUBLIC MEETING

You are invited to attend a public meeting concerning the Herculaneum Lead Smelter Site.

**The meeting will be held on Tuesday,
January 22, 2002
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Senn-Thomas Middle School
Gymnasium
204 Main Street**

EPA is taking these requests very seriously. We have and will continue to look for ways to improve on how we are addressing the health threats to the community.

December 2001

On December 21, 2001, EPA and Doe Run signed an order to speed up the yard cleanups which includes yard soil replacement, house cleaning, and transportation issues.

The order directs Doe Run to:

- # Clean up homes, within 30 days, of children six years old and younger who have elevated blood lead levels. As new homes are identified, Doe Run will clean up these homes within 30 days.
- # Clean up all homes, within four months, where lead in the soil is above 400 parts per million (ppm) and children six years old and younger live at the home.
- # Clean up homes, parks, playgrounds, and schools, within six months, where lead in the soil is above 10,000 ppm.
- # Clean up homes, parks, playgrounds, and schools, within one year, where lead in the soils is between 2,500 and 10,000 ppm.
- # Clean up the interior of the homes within 20 days of the yard cleanup completions.
- # Submit a transportation plan for the use of trucks and/or rail.

Previous Actions

Additional air controls were installed at the end of July 2001. Preliminary data shows that lead concentrations in the air are lower. We expect further reductions as the rest of the controls go online in the next four to six months.

MDNR is currently operating five ambient air monitors with a sixth to go on line in the next few weeks. The remaining air controls are to be installed no later than July 2002.

Health Information

The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry and the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services continue to work very closely with EPA and MNDR.

We encourage you to have your child tested for lead exposure. Please contact your private physician or the Jefferson County Health Department at 636-789-3372 to have your child tested.

We advise you to continue to take the following actions to reduce your and your children's exposure to lead. It is advisable to take the following actions:

- # Have children play on solid grass cover in yards or parks.
- # Remove shoes before entering your home.
- # Do not allow children to play in the street or on the curbs.
- # Encourage children not to put their hands in their mouths.
- # Encourage frequent hand and face washing before eating, drinking and sleeping.

Temporary Relocation

EPA believes that the required activities, such as air monitoring, yard cleanups, continued blood lead screening and slag pile controls, will reduce or eliminate exposure to lead sources.

We realize that until these activities are completed, young children may continue to be exposed to high levels of lead.

We will be offering temporary relocations for families whose yards and homes meet the criteria for a cleanup.

Temporary relocation will be offered to:

- # Households with children under six years old with soil lead levels above 400 ppm.
- # Households with a pregnant woman.
- # Households with people who are potentially sensitive to lead exposure will be considered for temporary relocation on a case by case basis.

We anticipate households being relocated until the yard soil replacement and interior home cleaning is completed. Our goal is to relocate households to furnished housing in the community or as close to the community as possible.

Additional Information

If you have questions, please contact:

Health Information

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services

Angela Minor
314-877-2806

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry

Denise Jordan-Izaguirre
913-551-1310

Site Information

Missouri Department of Natural Resources

Karen Cass
Dave Mosby
573-751-8629

Site and Temporary Relocation Information

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 7

Karen Flournoy
Bruce Morrison
Tony Petruska
1-800-223-0425